

Control 156377  
November 1955

ELECTRIC POWER AND SOLID FUELS

Frequency of Meetings: 2 meetings in 15 months

<u>SC Members</u> <u>Evaluation</u>	<u>Valuable?</u>	<u>Continue?</u>	<u>Future Work?</u>	<u>Faults?</u>
AFOIN	No	No	Only 2 agencies concerned - bi-lateral relations better	Unnecessary
G-2	Yes - has identified main intelligence gaps	Yes	"Meet at least every 2 months until present problems resolved - should formulate a planned priority research program"	None
IR	Could be	Little point unless given specific assignment	-	Leadership uninspired - called meetings only when prodded by EIC/S
ORR	Yes	Yes - "when needed" meetings	Meetings held on ad hoc rather than on a periodic basis	"Electric power" and "solid fuels" not directly related and handled by separate staffs - but no immediate change recommended
OSD	Very valuable in reviewing areas of intelligence and pointing-up areas of deficiencies	Time limitation has permitted only review of intelligence data in one of four categories. Continue until review of all four has been completed.	Complete first assignment; continue second phase - cataloging intelligence data to make it more useful.	Nature of assignments requires slow, tedious schedule; no major fault in process; continuation would produce desired results.

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1 November 1955  
EPSF~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~Subcommittee's Evaluation of Itself (From Annual Report):

"The subcommittee provides a channel for communication with EIC and also is a means for such interagency formal action as may be required. For these reasons, it should be continued. However, in view of the small number of research staffs concerned - AFOIN, Army Map Service, and CIA for electric power, and CIA only for solid fuels\* - it is believed that best results will be obtained by continuance of informal contacts between the representatives of the staffs mentioned above.

"Under these circumstances, meetings of the Subcommittee would be held on an ad hoc basis for consideration and formal action on matters of common interest to the represented agencies."

Secretariat's Evaluation of Subcommittee Activities:

The work of this subcommittee covers two essentially separate fields, i.e., electricity and coal. "Electric power" is being actively studied by three agencies (Air Force, AMS, and ORR). There seems every reason why the subcommittee could be considerably more active in this field. A tentative program has been agreed and should be gotten on with. Actually no chairman has ever been appointed and this has been a major handicap, since the executive secretary has understandably been somewhat reluctant to grab the ball and run with it. The problem is more difficult for solid fuels. Although the Bureau of Mines used to publish estimates of coal production behind the Iron Curtain, such research was discontinued a year or two ago and only ORR now undertakes to follow Sino-Soviet solid fuels production. Although the location and capacity of deposits is fairly well known, there is a real deficiency in knowledge as to the distribution of the separate types of coal to various consuming groups (particularly by industry) and geographically (i.e., by transport route). In this field also, however, the subcommittee could become much more useful by subjecting "single agency's" (i.e., ORR/CIA) research programs, publications, and proposed projects to the comments and suggestions of the rest of the community. It is emphasized, furthermore, that the over-all supply of energy is an important element in the total Soviet economic picture. Accordingly, the EIC must - to discharge its assigned responsibilities - keep "on top of" the state of intelligence on Sino-Soviet Bloc power.

In short there would appear to be a real coordinating job for the subcommittee to do in the field of electric power. For solid fuels, however, the subcommittee's function must necessarily be largely one of assisting ORR research by review and advice.

\* Mr. J. A. Corgan, Bureau of Mines, was appointed an Associate Member of the subcommittee in order that it might receive the benefit of his past experience on solid fuels within the Sino-Soviet Bloc and his present knowledge of these fuels in areas outside the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

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1 November 1955

EPSF

Recommended EIC Action:

25X1A9a

1. <sup>25X1A9a</sup> Appoint a chairman for this group. CIA is willing to nominate [REDACTED] (whose curriculum vitae is attached) who has been serving as the executive secretary.
2. Request the Subcommittee to expedite action on its assigned responsibilities to:
  - a. call on the talents of other agencies who might make a contribution, particularly in the field of electric power;
  - b. complete its surveys of priority research and collection deficiencies; and
  - c. explore and report to the EIC as to other measures which might be taken to make the subcommittee a more effective instrument of the community.

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